

**SIX DOLLARS
PER QUARTER**

Mails.

U. S. MAIL LINE.
PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVER-
LAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING
AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN
FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamship
"CITY OF SYDNEY"
 will be dispatched for San Francisco, *via* Kobe and Yokohama, on **WEDNESDAY**, the 9th October, at 1 P.M., taking **Passengers and Freight** for Japan, the United States and Europe.

Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, and Atlantic and Inland Cities of the United States, via Overland Railways, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers.

First-class Fares granted as follows:—

To San Francisco.....	\$25.00
To San Francisco and return, } available for 6 months.....	393.75
To Liverpool.....	335.00
To London.....	330.00

To other European Points at proportionate rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service, and the Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application.

Passengers by this line have the option of proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific and Connecting Lines, Central Pacific, Northern Pacific or Canadian Pacific Railways.

Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (on *vice versa*) within one year will be allowed a discount of 10 per cent. *This allowance does not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.*

Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M. the day previous to sailing. Parcel Packages will be received at the Office until 5 P.M. same day. All Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to Ports beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Offices in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company No. 50A, Queen's Road Central.

C. D. HAKMAN,
Agent,
Hankow, 30th September, 1920.

STEAM FOR
SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, ADEN,
SUEZ, PORT SAID, MALTA, GIBRAL-
TAR, BRINDISI, ANCONA, VENICE,
PLYMOUTH, AND LONDON;
ALSO,
BOMBAY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA AND
AUSTRALIA.

W.B.—CARGO CAN BE TAKEN ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR BATAVIA, PERHIAH, GULF PORTS, MARSEILLES, TRIESTE, HAMBURG, NEW YORK AND BOSTON.

SPECIE ONLY LANDED AT FLYMOUTH

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship "SUTLEY," Captain W. D. Worcester, with Her Majesty's Mail, will be despatched from this port for LONDON direct, via COLOMBO and SUEZ CANAL, calling at MARSEILLES, and usual Ports of call, on WEDNESDAY, the 6th October, at Noon.

Cargo will be received on board until 4 P.M. the day before sailing.
Parcels and Special Goods (Gold) at the Office until 4 P.M., on the day before sailing.
For further particulars regarding FREIGHT and PASSAGE apply to the PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Office, Hong Kong.
The Contents and Value of Packages are required to be declared prior to shipment.
Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Black Bills of Lading.

This Steamer takes Cargo and Passengers to
Marselles.

E. L. WOODIN,
Superintendent.

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office,
Hongkong, 26th September, 1889.

CANADIAN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP
COMPANY.

TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO
JAPAN, CANADA, THE UNITED
STATES AND EUROPE,
VIA

**THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY
AND OTHER CONNECTING
RAILWAY LINES & STEAMERS.**

THE British Steamship

"**PARTHIA.**"

3,127 Tons Register, Wallace, Commande
will be despatched for VANCOUVER, B.C.
via KOBE & YOKOHAMA, on THURSDAY
the 10th October, at NOON.

To be followed by the S.S. "BATAVIA,"
on the 24th Oct., and S.S. "ARVYSINIA," on the

Connection will be made at Yokohama with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan Ports, as well as at Vancouver with Pacific Coast Points by the regular Steamers of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company and other Steamers.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic Lines of Steamers,

First-class Fares granted as follows:—

To Vancouver and Victoria.....	(Mex.) \$250.00
To all Common Ports in Canada)	
and the United States	275.00

To Liverpool 320.00
To London 315.00

To other European Ports at proportional rates. * Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service, and to Imperial Chinese and Japanese Customs, to be obtained on application.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to Ports in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Offices, addressed Mr. D. E. BROWN, District Freight Agent, Vancouver, B.C.

Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M. on the 6th Oct.

All Parcels must be sent to our Office as
 Should be marked to address in full; and the
 Name will be received by us until 5 P.M. of
 day previous to sailing.
 For information as to Passage or Freight
 apply to
ADAMSON, BELL & Co.,
 Agents,
 Hongkong, 27th September, 1889. [

Intimations.

DAKIN BROTHERS' EFFERVESCENT SALINE POWDER. APERIENT-COOLING-REFRESHING.

THIS powder forms an agreeable beverage, which not only relieves thirst and exhaustion, but invigorates the depressed state of the nervous power resulting from climatic effects or functional derangement of the stomach or liver. Violent and dangerous attacks of malarial fever, not infrequently owe their origin to a jaded and overworked state of the great purifying organs the liver, kidneys, and spleen, thus allowing the blood to become infected with malarial poison culminating in fever.

The best safe guard is an occasional dose of a mild aperient saline, that will oxygenize the blood and restore freshness and vigour to the circulation and enable the system to withstand malaria and all other dangerous infection. DAKIN BROS' SALINE POWDER is the best of its kind. Price 75 cents per bottle.

DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA, LIMITED, HONGKONG.

(Telephone No. 60.) Hongkong, 30th September, 1889.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD. ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

MANUFACTURERS OF AERATED WATERS.

OUR AERATED WATER MANUFACTORY is replete with the best Machinery, embodying all the latest improvements in the trade.

The greatest attention has been paid to appliances for ensuring purity in the Water supply, to secure which we have added a Condenser capable of supplying us with 3,000 gallons of distilled water a day, and are now in a position to compete in quality with the best English Makers. Our Sweet Waters cannot be surpassed anywhere.

The purest ingredients only are used, and the utmost care and cleanliness are exercised in the manufacture throughout.

FOR COAST PORTS, Waters are packed and placed on board ship at Hongkong prices, and the full amount allowed for Packages and Empties when received in good order.

Counterfoil Order Books supplied on application.

COAST PORT ORDERS, whenever practicable, are despatched by first steamer leaving after receipt of order.

Our Registered Telegraphic Address is, "DISPENSARY, HONGKONG," And all signed messages addressed thus will receive prompt attention.

The following is a List of Waters always kept ready in Stock:

PURE AERATED WATER, SODA WATER, LEMONADE, POTASH WATER, SELTZER WATER, LITHIA WATER, SASSAPARILLA WATER, TONIC WATER, GINGER ALE, GINGER GRADE.

No Credit given for bottles that are dirty, or greasy, or that appear to have been used for any other purpose than that of Containing Aerated Water, as such bottles are never used again by us.

WATSON'S PURE FRUIT CORDIALS. Prepared from the Juice of the finest selected Fresh Fruit.

Raspberry, Strawberry, Damson, Pine Apple, Mocha Cherry, Lime Juice, &c.

A table-spoonful (more or less according to taste) added to a tumbler of plain or aerated water forms a delicious beverage. The addition of Wines or Spirits produce excellent and piquant results.

Price, 75 Cents per Bottle, or \$7.50 per dozen Case Assorted.

RASPBERRY SYRUP, STRAWBERRY SYRUP, RASPBERRY VINEGAR, Price, \$1 per Bottle.

For imparting a delicious flavour to AERATED WATERS, SUMMER DRINKS, &c., &c.

Sole Agents for Hongkong and China for MONTERRAT LIME FRUIT JUICE CORDIALS.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD., Hongkong, China, and Manila.

THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1889.

TELEGRAMS.

BOULANGER'S ELECTION. LONDON, September 29th.

The revising committee have annulled the votes recorded in favour of General Boulanger.

STRIKES IN HOLLAND. The Dock strikers at Rotterdam have been in collision with the Police Civil Guard. Afterward it was decided to exclude Socialists and to cease terrorism, and thereupon negotiations were commenced between the masters and strikers.

PRINCESS NATALIE. Princess Natalie has arrived in Belgrade.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

A ROCHESTER scientist advocates drowning as the most humane form of capital punishment to which criminals can be subjected.

A BOAT-RACE will take place to-morrow afternoon about 4.30 o'clock, between crews picked respectively from the R.A. and H.M.S. *Mutina*. A close and exciting race is anticipated.

At the Police Court this morning, before Mr. H. E. Woodhouse, a lone widow complained that a pair of silver ear-rings and a couple of pieces of (unmentionable) clothing were stolen from her by a strapping young hawker who ought to have known better than to rob a poor old lady. His Whimsey next the enterprising hawker into retirement for six weeks, with hard labour, thrown in, to keep him from wearying.

THE Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Orestis*, from Liverpool, left Singapore for this port yesterday morning, and is due on the 6th inst.

He—Will you marry me? She (coolly)—No; no I won't be a sister either. You're too young. He—Will you be a grandmother to me, then?

IRON ore is produced in twenty-nine counties of England and Wales, twelve counties in Scotland, and in one of the provinces of Ireland. The production has fallen off seriously during recent years.

ACCORDING to the *Dzjurnik*, a paper published at Saratoff, Russia, there is living there a man who is one hundred and forty years old. His name is Daniel Samoiloff and he was born at Saratoff in 1749.

Mr. C. D. Harman, agent of the O. & O. S. S. Co., inform us that the steamer *Orestis*, with mail, &c., from San Francisco, via Honolulu, to the 10th ulto, has arrived at Yokohama, and will leave for this port on Friday, the 4th inst.

NOTHING so quickly restores tone to exhausted nerves and strength to a weary body as a bath containing an ounce of *aqua ammonia* to each gallon of water. It makes the flesh firm and smooth, and renders the body pure and free from odour.

THE rape case was again on the *table* at the Police Court this morning. Chan Ahm, the gentleman accused of taking improper liberties, was committed for trial at the next Criminal Sessions, Mr. Woodhouse being of opinion that a *prima facie* case had been made out.

THE wife of a clergyman, lately obtained a divorce from her husband, one of the items of cruelty being that he frequently pulled the bedclothes off her at night. We should say there is nothing more likely to cause a coolness between man and wife than this sort of thing.

It is reported that when the body of Damala, Sara Bernhardt's husband, was carried to the ground floor of the house, the coffin was found too small, and it took an hour to make it large enough. During the operation the body was placed in an arm-chair, and Sara had the courage to support Damala's head on her shoulder during the whole time.

ANTONIO BOITESINA, whose performances on the ponderous double-bass were considered almost as remarkable in their way as the violin playing of Paganini, has just died at Parma, sixty-six years old. He composed several operas, directed the orchestra of the Italian Opera at Paris for a while, and subsequently became manager of the Italian Opera in Cairo.

At a recent meeting of the Linnean Society in England, a most extraordinary fruit was exhibited, the so-called "mimiculous fruit" of West Africa, belonging to the *Sapotaceae* covered externally with a soft, sweet pulp, it imparts to the palate a sensation which renders it possible to partake of sour substances and even of tartaric acid, lime-jules and vinegar, and to give them a flavor of absolute sweetness.

DIVORCE has been made comparatively easy in France under the new law, but a husband who took advantage thereof recently found that it was not altogether without defect. When he married he agreed to pay his mother-in-law a certain annual pension, and when he obtained his divorce he took it for granted that the pension ceased. The mother-in-law did not view it in that light, however, and instituted a suit, which has just been decided in her favor.

We read that Prince Alexander of Battenberg is living with his wife at Graz, in Styria, where he has purchased a beautiful villa. Prince Alexander is reported to be engaged in writing his reminiscences, from the period of his nomination to the crown of Bulgaria (April, 1886) until his marriage last month. He is very bitter against the royal family of England, and does not appear to entertain friendly feelings toward the Empress Frederick.

THE *Sydney Bulletin* reports that a meeting of Americans was held at Phair's Hotel, Melbourne, the other week, to locally establish an American Club. The Yankee Consul presided, and the company assembled numbered a Highlander from Gipsland, a Limerick man with a brogue, two melancholy-looking reporters and a gentleman from North Carolina. The only business transacted was a bottle of whisky, "shouted" by the Irishman, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

THE *Chinese Times* of the 31st September says:—"A correspondent in Hongkong gives our attention to a long letter from 'A Shareholder' in the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, which appears in the southern papers, and invites us to discuss the same. The shareholder's letter we consider a very able one, that is temperate and dignified language—if that be any satisfaction to the correspondent. But the affairs of the Bank as between shareholders and shareholders are, properly considered, a family concern which public journals are scarcely called upon to discuss unless when comment is challenged by the acts of the parties. When the interests of the general public are affected by the proceedings of any firm or corporation, they become legitimate subjects of public discussion, and this is a distinction pretty generally kept in view by the Press. Our correspondent must be good enough to accept this explanation of our not devoting the large amount of space which would be required to the reproduction of a letter which, without our aid, has received all requisite publicity."

MAX J. BECKER, President of the American Society of Civil Engineers, in a recent address to that body, drew a vivid picture of the future of electricity, which he says is certainly destined to excel all the forces of nature in the extended range of its useful application. In the prosecution of subterranean or subaqueous operations, such as tunnelling, mining, sinking of caissons, the use of the electric light is found to be of special benefit. Its incandescent form it is especially safe against the dangers from explosive gases, and in caissons work it removes the risks and inconveniences incident to the ready and rapid combustion of inflammable substances under the influence of high atmospheric pressure. In discussing electric street railways, he says: "ready adaptability, where cable, lines and horse traction are out of the question, Mr. Becker refers to an electric railway at Allegheny City, which is a distance of one mile out of a total length of four miles, ascending with a speed of four miles per hour, a hill over four hundred feet high upon a gradient of 125 per cent, with numerous curves of forty feet radius; the cars being each loaded with seventy-five people. Upon the lower portion of this line, the electric current is supplied by means of an underground connection, and on the upper portion of the line by the ordinary overhead conductors."

WONG YUK-SANG, the non-gild tailor who was badly wounded on the 6th of August last by Tang Hoi, a gild man in the same line of business, appears to be in a precarious state in the hospital. The case was called at the Police Court this morning before Mr. Woodhouse, but as the complainant was not able to appear, the hearing was further remanded till the 9th inst.

JOHN PAIRD, Judge Stephen's coachman, while giving evidence to the Sydney Criminal Court the other week, stated that a certain night was so dark that "you wouldn't be able to recognise anybody except you knew who it was." Mr. Rogers, Q.C., asked, "Was that stable gate locked?" "It was when I opened it," promptly replied John. The Q.C., enquiring if there was anyone with him at the time, John answered: "Yes, I was by myself and another party." Mr. Baird possesses a Scotch name, but it looks long odds on his hailing from the Emerald Isle.

AMOV.

In Konlangar where my *pidgin* is, I find the Thistle grows indigenous; Here gentler reader don't I "not!" On pleasant bank to wet my whistle, With exclamation loud I cry "Great Scott!" For I went plump upon a thistle.

From native health and mountain blast, What brought it here? Who took it round The world, to land upon this ground And place it here at last?

Though humble be its pedigree, Yet by tradition fondly prized, In camp and ball-room utilized, A symbol of the free.

Aye! here grows Scotland's pride and glory, The emblem of historic story, That springs from every hill and fen, In every old historic glen.

Oh hame, sweet hame, Dedicated to Scotchmen great and sma, From "banks and brats" so far awa.

D. K. GRIFFITH.

Hongkong, October 2nd, 1889.

On Wednesday at 5.15 p.m. (says the *Chinese Times* of September 21st) Peking was startled by a sudden glow in the sky towards the south of the city, indicating a fire of some magnitude in that direction. Upon enquiring, amongst the natives the locality of the fire was surprised to learn, that it was "The Temple of Heaven," and rather loth to believe it, until the information was confirmed, after we had scrambled upon the roof of the house and seen for ourselves that such was the case. The fire was not quite at four o'clock this morning, and the temple is a heap of smouldering ruins. Previous to the fire Peking was visited by the heaviest downpour of rain that has taken place in years, simply a deluge for about an hour or so, flooding nearly every building and house in the city, and making many of the roads impassable. The great downpour in Hongkong could not have been more than a deluge, but it was a shower of hailstones, of about 1 inch in diameter and like pieces of glass, so hard and transparent were they. The wind also chopped round from one quarter to another with remarkable rapidity. This deluge of rain taking place before the fire burst out has created the belief amongst the Chinese that the fire was the work of Heaven, but the foreigners believe that the lightning of Wednesday morning at three o'clock (when we had a short sharp thunderstorm with incessant flashes of lightning) was the cause of it. It would be dangerous for a native to hint that it was the work of a man. One individual says that it is the fault of the young Empress, because she "is all fire," and there has been nothing but trouble since the marriage.

SOLOMON has borne for many centuries the reputation of the wisest man this world has ever seen, but of late he has been giving himself away considerably. His latest escapade is not altogether a display of worldly wisdom, but as there is a female in the question we are perhaps justified in giving the old man a little bit of extra license. However, to our tale. On Monday last a writ of summons—this is the legal way of putting it—was issued through the Court by Miss Toa against dear old Solomon, in which the lady claimed one thousand shillings of silver vulgarly known as a dollar, for an alleged breach of promise of marriage. Solomon, on receiving this *blatant* dose from Victoria, Queen, Defender of the Faith, etc., remembered that he was not in Jerusalem, and thought his best policy was to "skip," without indulging in the customary ceremonial of circulating his *p. & c.* cards. "The best laid plans of mice and men oft gang agley," said Robbie Burns, and this was Solomon's experience when he boarded the "Blue Funnel" steamer *Sargodon*, bound for Shanghai, yesterday forenoon. Some *de* good natured puns he had given a wisest man clean away, and a mixture of the law took possession of the patriarch just as the steamer was preparing to leave. The charge of being an "abandoning debtor" covers a lot of ground, and poor old Solomon, who had transferred his fickle affections from the Rose of Sharon—we are indulging in poetic license—to a charming maiden from the Land of the Rising Sun, was carefully escorted ashore and, failing to find security, was securely locked up. All women are deceivers, of course, and so we can conscientiously offer Solomon our sincere sympathies in his present uncomfortable position.

We observe from the *Shih Pao* that Téng Kuo-chuan, Commissioner of Southern Trade and Viceroy of the Liang Kiang, has promulgated a stringent proclamation against the iniquitous practice of selling children, as resorted to by the famine-stricken people in Shantung. His Excellency states that he had received a petition from Song Chun, an official of the Board of Revenue, and several others, representing that the distressed people in Shantung have been in the habit of selling their offspring since the inundation occurred, and they request that funds might be remitted to Shéng Tsai, to be used for redeeming these outcasts. This practice is certainly most detestable, and Téng says he is glad that certain of the gentry have already raised *Tai*, 1,000 and sent to Shéng Tsai for the purpose of redeeming these discarded children. Others of the gentry have proceeded to Shantung, and there established quarters where these "redeemed" children may be cared for, and afterwards, when the distresses are over, sent back to their relatives. The meritoriousness of such actions is certainly great, and knowing that large funds must be had for the redemption and maintenance of the sold children, His Excellency has, in compliance with the request set forth in the petition, appropriated the sum of *Tai*, 2,000 and sent it to Shéng Tsai to aid in this charitable work. He has also instructed the Government Disbursement Office to send whatever surplus moneys there may be out of the Kiangsu and Anhui Relief Funds to Shéng Tsai for the same object. And the latter has been asked to communicate with the Hailwan Tsai at Shanghai, requesting him to write to the Commissioner of Customs that part to institute a general search on all steamers arriving from the North, for sold children, and arresting all parties who may be found guilty of harboring sold children. The above instructions have been put into effect at Shanghai, and transmitters will find it hard to evade the vigilant eyes of the law.

FROM THE *Sydney Bulletin*.—The Prince of Wales has just had £40,000 a year added to his income, and Robert Fisher has been summoned at Shipton-on-Stour for payment of arrears of 1s. a week for the support of his mother, an old woman between 80 and 90. These arrears at present amount to £1,111. Asked for an explanation, Fisher replied thus:—

"It is no use, I can't pay it. Look at my hand, I have been dead for 20 years. Ever since I was nine years old I have been at work. My wife's a poor, helpless creature. Her hand is swollen, and about 15 months ago I got kicked on the thigh by a horse. You know I was a carrier. My wages for 10 weeks. I don't live in my power to do anything, and I don't see how I can do it. I pay into the House Club to keep myself off the parish."

A constable having stated that Fisher had no goods worth distraining on, the old man was ordered to pay up in a fortnight, or go to prison. That is to say, a poverty-stricken toiler of 70 years is to save £3, 11s. out of 24s. in 14 days. That's clearly impossible, and if Fisher can't borrow, beg, or steal the money, to gao! he goes. Britain is a very lazarous among the nations.

ST. BERNARD, monk of Clairvaux, away back in the Middle Ages, worked no mightier influence with his golden tongue than does Cardinal Lavergie. Wherever he goes, in all lands—Catholic, Belgium, infidel France and Belgium, Protestant Germany, the Cardinal Archbishop of Tunis and Algiers draws multitudes of hearers and millions of money to aid in putting down the infamous traffic in human flesh that has long been piled among the ignorant masses of Africa. Lavergie's life shows what purpose, united with energy, can accomplish. Born in Bayonne in France, in 1825, he studied theology and rose to be Professor at the famous Sorbonne in Paris. Under Napoleon he played an important part in the difficult task of State education. In 1867 he was a *persona grata* to the Roman Pontiff. By the latter he was appointed to his see as archbishop, although the see or archbishopric was only such in name. The new appointee displayed an energy that soon astonished not only Rome, but France and all Europe. So energetic were his movements and measures that MacMahon's military government in Algiers got mixed up in conflict with the Bishop. Into the heart of the Dark Continent he sent trained missionaries to preach the Gospel, the arts and sciences, and civilization to the bewildered savages. His energy was like a romance. Anxious to supplement the work of such men as Livingstone, Cameron, Stanley and others, he went to Europe to preach a new crusade against slavery and trade in human flesh. To this end he was commissioned by Pope Leo and presented by him with 300,000 francs. Paris, Brussels, Rome, Berlin, Cologne—all the large and important capitals and cities of Europe have hung spell-bound to an eloquence Demosthenic in its force and terrific in its earnestness of denunciation.

During the last few months the Cardinal has been making a tour through Europe to bring about a conference at Lucerne. The conference has been held in August, but was postponed until after the French elections, and will take place in October.

The *Shih Pao* of the 17th September following:—"On Saturday last Monsieur de Lévesque, the French Minister, arrived here from Peking, and at once proceeded to see the Viceroy. He is undecided in assigning the motive for his visit, whether it be in connection with the proposed work at Port Arthur, or with the railway about to be undertaken. But if the visit has reference to the Port Arthur works, we would remind our readers that when the French Syndicate contracted for the undertaking they were secured by the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris for the faithful carrying out of the contract. Now, however, since this bank has gone into liquidation, this security is no longer available, while about a third part of the works still remain unfinished, and the funds have all been expended. But the contract stipulates that for the terms therein agreed the works were to be completed, whether the undertaking proved profitable to the contractor or otherwise. This being the case, we do not see what else need be said, except faithfully carrying out the terms of the contract. With regard to railways, we find that the seventh article of the French Treaty of Tientsin stipulates that whenever in the future China decides to build railways or other public works, French subjects ought to be entrusted with the carrying out of such undertakings in order that they may reap the advantages arising therefrom. With such a clause in the Treaty, it is hardly to be expected but that the French Minister, now that the Thone has authorized the construction of a national line, should entertain most exalted hopes. The attitude of China, however, is towards all alike, looking with no greater favour upon one nation than another, and as she can borrow money or purchase materials from the English, so she can do the same from the French if she chose. If the French Minister should demur about the non-compliance with the article above referred to, China can return ask why the Port Arthur works have not been carried out according to contract, and where further security is to come from since the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris has failed. We think that Mr. Lévesque, being a man of wisdom, will hardly make such demands, and the common talk among foreigners is the merest gossip."

We have good reasons for believing that Monsieur Lévesque's visit to Li Hung-chang, which appears to have so greatly puzzled our northern contemporaries, was in reference to the claims made against the French Administration in Tongkin by the China Merchants Company for their godowns at Haiphong, which were taken possession of and used for storage purposes by the first army of occupation. The original claim was stated at one million dollars, but by an agreement arrived at between Monsieur Lévesque and Viceroy Li, the matter has been settled by the French Government paying \$100,000 within the next four years.

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The *Shih Pao* of the 17th September following:—"On Saturday last Monsieur de Lévesque, the French Minister, arrived here from Peking, and at once proceeded to see the Viceroy. He is undecided in assigning the motive for his visit, whether it be in connection with the proposed work at Port Arthur, or with the railway about to be undertaken. But if the visit has reference to the Port Arthur works, we would remind our readers that when the French Syndicate contracted for the undertaking they were secured by the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris for the faithful carrying out of the contract. Now, however, since this bank has gone into liquidation, this security is no longer available, while about a third part of the works still remain unfinished, and the funds have all been expended. But the contract stipulates that for the terms therein agreed the works were to be completed, whether the undertaking proved profitable to the contractor or otherwise. This being the case, we do not see what else need be said, except faithfully carrying out the terms of the contract. With regard to railways, we find that the seventh article of the French Treaty of Tientsin stipulates that whenever in the future China decides to build railways or other public works, French subjects ought to be entrusted with the carrying out of such undertakings in order that they may reap the advantages arising therefrom. With such a clause in the Treaty, it is hardly to be expected but that the French Minister, now that the Thone has authorized the construction of a national line, should entertain most exalted hopes. The attitude of China, however, is towards all alike, looking with no greater favour upon one nation than another, and as she can borrow money or purchase materials from the English, so she can do the same from the French if she chose. If the French Minister should demur about the non-compliance with the article above referred to, China can return ask why the Port Arthur works have not been carried out according to contract, and where further security is to come from since the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris has failed. We think that Mr. Lévesque, being a man of wisdom, will hardly make such demands, and the common talk among foreigners is the merest gossip."

We have good reasons for believing that Monsieur Lévesque's visit to Li Hung-chang, which appears to have so greatly puzzled our northern contemporaries, was in reference to the claims made against the French Administration in Tongkin by the China Merchants Company for their godowns at Haiphong, which were taken possession of and used for storage purposes by the first army of occupation. The original claim was stated at one million dollars, but by an agreement arrived at between Monsieur Lévesque and Viceroy Li, the matter has been settled by the French Government paying \$100,000 within the next four years.

FROM THE *Sydney Bulletin*.—The Prince of Wales has just had £40,000 a year added to his income, and Robert Fisher has been summoned at Shipton-on-Stour for payment of arrears of 1s. a week for the support of his mother, an old woman between 80 and 90. These arrears at present amount to £1,111. Asked for an explanation, Fisher replied thus:—

"It is no use, I can't pay it. Look at my hand, I have been dead for 20 years. Ever since I was nine years old I have been at work. My wife's a poor, helpless creature. Her hand is swollen, and about 15 months ago I got kicked on the thigh by a horse. You know I was a carrier. My wages for 10 weeks. I don't live in my power to do anything, and I don't see how I can do it. I pay into the House Club to keep myself off the parish."

A constable having stated that Fisher had no goods worth distraining on, the old man was ordered to pay up in a fortnight, or go to prison. That is to say, a poverty-stricken toiler of 70 years is to save £3, 11s. out of 24s. in 14 days. That's clearly impossible, and if Fisher can't borrow, beg, or steal the money, to gao! he goes. Britain is a very lazarous among the nations.

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